



Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report

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Methodology

Storage Basics

Schedule

Historical Data

Working Gas in Underground Storage Data Released May 18, 2006 at 10:30 A.M., For the Week Ending May 12, 2006

Region	Stocks (Bcf) for May 12, 2006	Stocks (Bcf) for May 5, 2006	Implied Net Change (Bcf)	Year Ago Stocks (Bcf)
East	1,068	1,008	60	731
West	279	267	12	248
Producing	733	714	19	607
Total Lower 48	2,080	1,989	91	1,586

Region	5-Year (2001-2005) Average Stocks (Bcf)	Difference from 5-Year Average (Percent)
East	658	62.3
West	216	29.2
Producing	483	51.8
Total Lower 48	1,358	53.2

Notes and Definitions

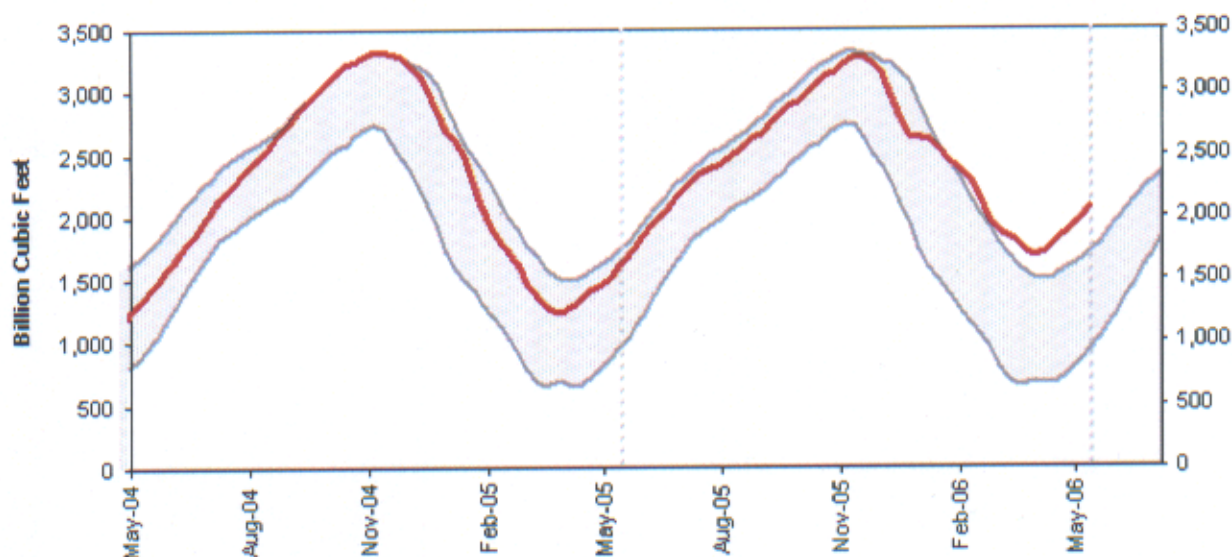
Note: This report tracks U.S. natural gas inventories held in underground storage facilities. The weekly stocks generally are the volumes of working gas as of the report date. Changes in reported stock levels reflect all events affecting working gas in storage, including injections, withdrawals, and reclassifications between base and working gas.

Note: The weekly storage estimates are based on a survey sample that does not include all companies that operate underground storage facilities. The sample was selected from the list of storage operators to achieve a target standard error of the estimate of working gas in storage which was no greater than 5 percent for each region. Based on a comparison of weekly estimates and monthly data from May 2002 through February 2006, estimated total working gas stocks have exhibited an average absolute error of 19 billion cubic feet, or 0.9 percent. For an expanded discussion of the relationship between the current and prior estimates, please see [Differences Between Monthly and Weekly Working Gas in Storage](#).

Storage Highlights:

Working gas in storage was 2,080 Bcf as of Friday, May 12, 2006, according to EIA estimates. This represents a net increase of 91 Bcf from the previous week. Stocks were 494 Bcf higher than last year at this time and 722 Bcf above the 5-year average of 1,358 Bcf. In the East Region,

stocks were 410 Bcf above the 5-year average following net injections of 60 Bcf. Stocks in the Producing Region were 250 Bcf above the 5-year average of 483 Bcf after a net injection of 19 Bcf. Stocks in the West Region were 63 Bcf above the 5-year average after a net addition of 12 Bcf. At 2,080 Bcf, total working gas is above the 5-year historical range.

Working Gas in Underground Storage Compared with 5-Year Range

Notes: A weekly record for March 8, 2002, was linearly interpolated between the derived weekly estimates that end March 1 and the initial estimate from the EIA-912 on March 15. The shaded area indicates the range between the historical minimum and maximum values for the weekly series from 2000 through 2004.

Source: Form EIA-912, "Weekly Underground Natural Gas Storage Report." The dashed vertical lines indicate current and year-ago weekly periods.

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Energy Information Administration, EI 30
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